

Town of Little Creek Council Meeting Minutes for September 12, 2022

The meeting of the Little Creek Town Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Commissioner Edward Strouse. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Board members and residents in attendance and a moment of silence was observed. Having observed that five out of five members of the Board of Commissioners were present at the meeting, Commissioner Theresa May declared to all persons in attendance that there was a quorum and therefore the Town Council was free to conduct business and begin the meeting. The five members of the Board of Commissioners present for the Town of Little Creek Council Meeting: Commissioner Ed Strouse, Commissioner Carol Puleo, Commissioner Adrienne Hegman, Commissioner Jason Arrington, and Commissioner Theresa May. Seven members of the public were in attendance in person for the general meeting: Terry Gentry, Sam Gentry, Judy Hegman, Doug Hegman, Glenn Gauvry, Clay Crommett, and Susan Freese. Three members of the public attended the meeting via the Zoom option: Bill Clark, Carol Williams, and Penny Gentry.

The meeting minutes from the previous month were electronically sent to the incoming commissioners for their review prior to this meeting. These minutes were also made available to all in attendance as hard copies. All commissioners on the board reviewed the minutes from August 1, 2022, and Commissioner Puleo made a motion to accept the minutes received from the secretary/clerk as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hegman and put to a full board vote where it was passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was read aloud by Commissioner Hegman to the full assembly. A motion to accept the report from the August 1, 2022 to September 12, 2022 time period was made by Commissioner May and seconded by Commissioner Puleo. When presented for a vote to the full board it was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hegman stated the pending bills and provided information on what these bills covered. The formal motion to pay all the bills was made by Commissioner May. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Arrington and put to full board for a vote. The Board unanimously passed the motion to pay the current bills.

Committee Reports

- a) **Planning Commission** – Carol Williams and Commissioner Arrington
 - No applications were submitted between time of last month's meeting and this meeting.
- b) **FD Rezoning**: Commissioner Arrington is working through the FD property (parcel ID: 4 14 06900 01 0800 000) letter of compliance and is forwarding the request for permit to build from the law firm Hudson, Jones, Jaywork & Fisher
- c) **Parks and Recreation** – Commissioner Hegman
 - Swings have been repaired
 - Sidewalks to be done on 9/13/22
 - i) **Dog Park** (Mr. Hegman/Ms. Freese/Mr. Courtney)
 - Holes will be filled in when sidewalk is done.
 - Ladies from Wild Meadows continue to care for supply replenishment and upkeep.

- d) **Code Enforcement** – Commissioner Puleo
- 178 Main Street: All charges dropped
 - Bailey: Ticket issued by Kent County Code Enforcement
 - 316 Main Street: Repairs in progress
 - Church: Letter about original complaint was sent out
 - Steininger: 30-day letter asking to contact Board is currently passed 30 days. Person interested in buying the property has contacted Mayor Strouse.
 - 364 Main Street: No response to 30-day notice. Will have County come out and go to next step in process.
 - Grow house: Still in violation and will send out a 30-day letter. Other violations at the property noticed by neighbor. Neighbor advised to contact State Police with these concerns.
 - East EZ and Bell Street: Complaints being investigated.
- e) **Little Creek Fire Company Report** – President Frazier/Chief Scott Bundek
- No one present from Fire Department to give this report.
 - Mayor Strouse gave updated report on the purchase of a plow for the Fire Department. There was a misunderstanding concerning the written agreement regarding the use of the plow which the Town planned to use ARPA funds to purchase. ARPA stipulates that funds must be used for bonified and justifiable “Town” use to be available for purchases. Fire Department did not agree to keep the plow within “Town” limits as it may be needed on roadways outside of Town limits. Mayor Strouse said the clause needed to show it was being used for the Town in a meaningful way to prove, if audited, that funds were being used appropriately.
 - Fire Department chose to purchase the new plow with the Town’s assistance.

Old Business

- a) **Northern Flood Study** - Commissioner Strouse
- Grant Package: Bonini funds will cover complete flood study plan.
- b) **Bayshore Byways Grant** – Commissioner Strouse
- Nothing to report.
- c) **ARPA** (American Rescue Plan Act) – Commissioner Strouse
- \$17,001.21
 - Plan to use toward putting electricity in Town Hall and hose bibs in front and behind Post Office. Also could use some funds toward areas of parking lot at Post Office and Town Hall needing attention.
- d) **Street Lights** - Commissioner Strouse
- Bulbs replaced by City of Dover and greatly brighten area.
- e) **Taxes** – Commissioner Hegman
- f) **Community Partnerships** - Commissioner May
- Nothing to report.

New Business

- a) **Electric Rate Increase** - Commissioner Strouse
 - Electricity Rate of 30% for all residents of Town of Little Creek
 - Delaware Law is being researched to determine what can be done to change current law regarding rate increase.
- b) City of Dover Town Council voted on this increase without communicating the amount of the increase to The Town of Little Creek Board of Commissioners prior to their vote and implementation
- c) **Community Yard Sale** – Commissioner May
 - Board of Commissioners voted to hold the First Annual Town of Little Creek Community Yard Sale on Saturday October 8, 2022.
 - Contacting Fire Department to ask about renting table space for use by residents in the back parking area.
- d) **Book Box** – Commissioner Hegman and Commissioner Arrington
 - Community Survey??
- e) **Movie Nights** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Would like to recognize sponsors for movie nights at the November meeting.
 - Would like to also recognize the ladies from Wild Meadows for their assistance at the Dog Park.

Public Comment

- a) Floor was opened for Public Comment, and question about next steps with Cavalier's and Steininger properties was addressed.

Adjournment -

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Puleo. It was then put to the full Board for vote. All members having voted "Aye" the motion to adjourn was carried and the meeting was officially ended at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa May

Secretary